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EXAMINER				
CHAE, KYU				
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/726,800

**Applicant(s)**

STEENKAMP ET AL.

**Examiner**

KYU CHAE

**Art Unit**

2426

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 9-13 and 16-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 9-13 and 16-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/2/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ ~~Notice of Informal Patent Application~~
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The Office Action is in response to an AMENDMENT entered 2/5/2010 for the patent applicant 10/726800 filed 12/2/2003.
2. The Office Action of 11/05/2009 is fully incorporated into this Final Office Action by reference.

#### *Status of Claims*

3. Claims 5, 7, 8, 14 and 15 are canceled. Claims 1-4, 6, 9-13 and 16-25 are pending.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1-4, 6, 9, 10, 13, 16-18 and 20-25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,139,983 B2 to *Kelts* in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0126608 A1 to *Safadi* and in further view of U.S. Pub. No. 2007/0136693 A1 to *Lilleness*.

As to **claims 1, 16, 17 and 21**, *Kelts* discloses a method to provide digital content to a content destination, the method comprising:

providing a plurality of content provider identifiers to the content destination for display on an a display device, wherein each of the plurality of content provider identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of content providers (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 4, ll. 1-6 & col. 19, ll. 1-4, navigational interface featuring a set of symbols or icons representing service providers and broadcasting networks);

monitoring user selection of one of the plurality of content provider identifiers (*Kelts* col. 22, ll. 7-11, presentation layer and navigation interface display within an end user's control can be monitored indirectly by a web browser application);

communicating at least one available content identifier to the content destination in response to the user selection of the one of the plurality of content provider identifiers, the at least one available content identifier being associated with the one of the plurality of content provider identifiers selected by a user (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 4, ll. 1-6, col. 10, ll. 27-32. e.g. user can highlight a content provider identifier and a select button to view this channel); and

selectively communicating digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier to the content destination (*Kelts* col. 27, ll. 31-38, ll. 47-51, filtering based on whether the associated content is available as part of the user's subscription package), wherein the plurality of content provider identifiers are included in a communication between

the content distributor and the content destination (*Kelts* Fig. 8, col. 25, ll. 40-46, col. 26, ll. 52-57).

*Kelts* does not expressly disclose communicating digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier to the content destination independently of a content distributor and wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device

*Safadi* discloses communicating digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier to the content destination independently of a content distributor (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶0025-0027).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to modify *Kelts* by communicating digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier to the content destination independently of a content distributor as disclosed by *Safadi*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to provide the user additional content through the use of remote content providers using existing video delivery systems (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶0025-0027).

*Kelts* and *Safadi* do not expressly disclose wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider

identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device.

*Lilleness* discloses wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0018, 0023-0024 & 0026), the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0023).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify *Kelts* and *Safadi* by linking the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device as disclosed by *Lilleness*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to allow users to access an information source associated with the content provider (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0018, 0023-0024 & 0026).

As to **claim 2**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein each of the plurality of content provider identifiers is associated with a plurality of available content identifiers arranged in a hierarchical fashion (*Kelts* Fig. 1 col. 12, ll. 1-7 & col. 13, ll. 5-8).

As to **claim 3**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein a first available content identifier relates to a first digital content that is selectively

rendered to the content destination upon selection of the first available content identifier (*Kelts* Fig. 1 col. 4, ll. 1-6, col. 10, ll. 27-32 & col. 16, ll. 51-59).

As to **claim 4**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein the first available content identifier relates to a group of digital content, the group including a second available content identifier that identifies a second digital content that is available for communication to a media terminal upon selection of the second available content identifier (*Kelts* Fig. 2, col. 12, ll. 22-30, ll. 64 - col. 13, ll. 5, level of magnification increases the level of detail on the navigation element e.g. zooming allows the display of lower order subcategories)

As to **claims 6 and 20**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein the content destination communicates a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) request associated with the at least one available content identifier (*Kelts* col. 26, ll. 52-57 & col. 26, ll. 67 - col. 27, ll. 4).

As to **claim 9**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein each of the plurality of content provider identifiers are icons that visually identify an associated content provider (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 4, ll. 1-6).

As to **claim 10**, *Kelts* further discloses selectively communicating the digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier via a cable head-end of a cable network to the content destination (*Kelts* Fig. 8, col. 25, ll. 40-52).

As to **claim 13**, *Kelts* further discloses communicating the user selection of the one of the plurality of content provider identifiers to a digital rights network (*Kelts* Fig. 6, col. 19, ll. 57-59, security information).

As to **claim 18**, *Kelts* further discloses wherein the plurality of digital content providers communicate the digital content via the content distribution network to a cable head-end in response to the user selection of the one of the plurality of content provider identifiers (*Kelts* Fig. 8, col. 26, ll. 28-41).

As to **claims 22 and 24**, *Kelts* discloses a method to receive digital content at a content destination, the method comprising:

receiving at least one content provider identifier (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 9, ll. 34-44);

displaying the at least one content provider identifier on a display device at the content destination, wherein each of the at least one content provider identifier is associated with a content provider (*Kelts* Fig. 1 col. 4, ll. 1-6 & col. 19, ll. 1-4, navigational interface featuring a set of symbols or icons representing service providers and broadcasting networks);

transmitting a user selection of the at least one content provider identifier to a content distribution network (*Kelts* col. 22, ll. 7-11, presentation layer and navigation interface display within an end user's control can be monitored indirectly by a web browser application);

receiving at least one available content identifier at the content destination in a message from a content distributor in response to the user



selection of the at least one content provider identifier, the at least one available content identifier being associated with the at least one content provider identifier (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 4, ll. 1-6, col. 10, ll. 27-32. e.g. user can highlight a content provider identifier and a select button to view this channel);

*Kelts* does not expressly disclose providing authentication information from the content destination to the content distribution network; and receiving the digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier at the content destination from the content distribution network independently of the content distributor and wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device

*Safadi* discloses providing authentication information from the content destination to the content distribution network (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 2, ¶¶0020-0022); and receiving the digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier at the content destination from the content distribution network independently of the content distributor (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶¶0025-0027).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to modify *Kelts* by providing authentication

information and communicating digital content associated with the at least one available content identifier to the content destination independently of a content distributor as disclosed by *Safadi*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to provide the user additional content through the use of remote content providers using existing video delivery systems and to implement a digital rights management scheme (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶¶0020-0022 & 0025-0027).

*Kelts* and *Safadi* do not expressly disclose wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device.

*Lilleness* discloses wherein a first content provider identifier has an associated link that links the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0018, 0023-0024 & 0026), the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a display device (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0023).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skilled in the art to modify *Kelts* and *Safadi* by linking the content destination to a first content provider upon selection of the first content provider identifier, the first content provider providing the at least one available content identifier to the content destination for display on a

display device as disclosed by *Lilleness*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to allow users to access an information source associated with the content provider (*Lilleness* Fig. 1-3, pg. 2, ¶¶0018, 0023-0024 & 0026).

As to **claim 23**, *Kelts* further discloses receiving a digital content stream at the content destination, the digital content stream including the plurality of content provider identifiers corresponding to the digital content (*Kelts* Fig. 1, col. 4, ll. 1-6, col. 10, ll. 27-32).

As to **claim 25**, *Safadi* discloses wherein the media terminal is further to receive the digital content independently of the content distributor (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶¶0025-0027).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify *Kelts* and *Lilleness* by receiving the digital content independently of the content distributor as disclosed by *Safadi*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to provide the user additional content through the use of remote content providers using existing video delivery systems and to implement a digital rights management scheme (*Safadi* Fig. 1, pg. 3, ¶¶0025-0027).

6. **Claims 11, 12 and 19** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,139,983 B2 to *Kelts* in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0126608 A1 to *Safadi* in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2007/0136693 A1 to *Lilleness* and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,878 B1 to *Alonso*.

As to **claims 11 and 19**, *Kelts* further discloses receiving the digital content via a content distribution network at the cable head-end, the digital content being communicated using a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) format (*Kelts* col. 19, ll. 25-31).

*Kelts*, *Safadi* and *Lilleness* do not expressly disclose converting the digital content from the TCP/IP format to a Motion Picture Experts Group (MPEG) format at the cable head-end.

*Alonso* discloses interactively accessing information from a computer network such as a TCP/IP network (*Alonso* Fig. 1 abstract) and converting digital content from the TCP/IP format to an MPEG format (*Alonso* Fig. 1, col. 3, ll. 19-23).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify *Kelts*, *Safadi* and *Lilleness* by converting digital content from the TCP/IP format to an MPEG format as disclosed by *Alonso*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to transmit the audiovisual program in MPEG format through the cable network (*Alonso* Fig. 1, col. 3, ll. 19-23 & ll. 33-36).

As to **claim 12**, *Alonso* discloses wherein the converting is done on-the-fly (*Alonso* Fig. 1 abstract, col. 3, ll. 19-23).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify *Kelts*, *Safadi* and *Lilleness* by converting on-the-fly as disclosed by *Alonso*. The suggestion/motivation would have been in order to transmit the audiovisual program in MPEG

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format through the cable network in a timely fashion (*Alonso* Fig. 1 abstract, col. 3, ll. 19-23).

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6, 9-13 and 16-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Examination Considerations***

8. The claims and only the claims form the metes and bounds of the invention. "Office personnel are to give the claims their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the supporting disclosure. In re Morris, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054-55, 44USPQ2d 1023, 1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997). Limitations appearing in the specification but not recited in the claim are not read into the claim. In re Prater, 415 F.2d, 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541,550-551 (CCPA 1969)" (MPEP p 2100-8, c 2, I 45-48; p 2100-9, c 1, I 1-4). The Examiner has full latitude to interpret each claim in the broadest reasonable sense. Examiner will reference prior art using terminology familiar to one of ordinary skill in the art. Such an approach is broad in concept and can be either explicit or implicit in meaning.

9. Examiner's Notes are provided with the cited references to prior art to assist the applicant to better understand the nature of the prior art, application of such prior art and, as appropriate, to further indicate other prior art that maybe applied in other office actions. Such comments are entirely consistent with the intent and spirit of compact prosecution. However, and unless otherwise stated,

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the Examiner's Notes are not prior art but a link to prior art that one of ordinary skill in the art would find inherently appropriate.

10. Unless otherwise annotated, Examiner's statements are to be interpreted in reference to that of one of ordinary skill in the art. Statements made in reference to the condition of the disclosure constitute, on the face of it, the basis and such would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, establishing thereby an inherent prima facie statement.

11. Examiner's Opinion: ¶¶ 8-10 apply. The Examiner has full latitude to interpret each claim in the broadest reasonable sense.

### ***Conclusion***

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will

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the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

13. Claims 1-4, 6, 9-13 and 16-25 have been rejected.

***Correspondence Information***

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KYU CHAE whose telephone number is (571)270-5696. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOSEPH HIRL can be reached on (571)272-3685. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/K. C./

Examiner, Art Unit 2426

/Joseph P. Hirl/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2426

May 4, 2010